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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
MEDICAMENTA S.R.L. [IT/IT]; Via San Felice
105/a, I-40122 Bologna (IT).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **MERCATI, Valentino**
[IT/IT]; Aboca, 17, I-52037 Sansepolcro (IT).

(74) Agents: **MINOJA, Fabrizio** et al.; Bianchetti Bracco Mi-
noja S.r.l., Via Plinio, 63, I-20129 Milano (IT).

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR OBTAINING TOBACCO LEAVES WITH A STANDARDIZED NICOTINE CONTENT AND/OR
IMPROVED COMBUSTIBILITY

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a process for the preparation of tobacco leaves with a standardized nicotine content and/or improved combustibility, for use in the manufacture of smoking products such as cigarettes, cigars and shags. Said method comprises drying and curing of tobacco leaves (*Nicotiana tabacum*), extraction of the dried leaves with a mixture of organic solvent and water, re-drying of the extracted leaves to a controlled moisture value, and finally, elimination of the ribs. The leaves thus obtained are suitably mixed with excipients and flavourings, and shredded to make cigarettes, cigars, etc...

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